



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **KC MAN SENTENCED IN FIRST LOCAL CASE OF VIOLATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BAN ON FIREARMS POSSESSION**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City man was sentenced today for violating a provision of federal law that prohibits anyone convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence from possessing a firearm.

**Christopher W. Middaugh**, 23, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced this afternoon by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey to time served (from Oct. 2, 2002) until today, with five years of probation and a special condition that he serve four months in a halfway house.

On Oct. 10, 2002, **Middaugh** pleaded guilty to being in possession of a firearm after being convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence on Sept. 22, 2000 in the circuit court of Caldwell County, Mo.

**Middaugh** admitted he was in possession of a Mossberg .410 gauge shotgun from Dec. 19 through Dec. 22, 2001.

Graves explained that federal law prohibits anyone convicted of a felony, as well as certain other persons, from possessing a firearm. This is the first case in the Kansas City area to prosecute a defendant for possession of a firearm after having been convicted of a misdemeanor charge of domestic violence. That provision was signed into federal law on September 30, 1996.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda L. Sybrant. It was investigated by the Breckenridge, Mo., Police Department, the Caldwell County Sheriff's Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at [www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)